



News Release

3D Printing Event to Be Held at University of Minnesota Crookston April 28

*By Itollems on Friday, April 4, 2014*The public is invited to attend "Taking Shape: 3D Printing," Monday, April 28, 6:00-8:00 p.m in the Peterson Classroom in Heritage Hall on the campus of the University of Minnesota Crookston. The event is hosted by 360-degrees Manufacturing and Applied Engineering ATE Regional Center of Excellence, together with the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies at the University of Minnesota Crookston. Attendees will have the opportunity to see 3D printers in action and learn about the potential of this emerging technology to print a multitude of 3D objects, including such things as art, jewelry, personalized dolls and action figures, mechanical parts, medical devices, implants and even food. Attendees will learn about recent developments in 3D printing technology which are taking the world by storm and impacting many segments of society, including the arts, education, medicine and business. At the same time, the cost of personal use 3D printers has dropped to around \$1,000 to \$3,000 per unit, placing the purchase of these units within reach for small- to mid-sized businesses, individuals and other organizations. In its simplest definition, 3D printers (using a process which is sometimes referred to as additive manufacturing) place material precisely, layer-by-layer, slowly building up a 3-dimensional object. Materials which are being used currently include plastic, concrete, metal, wood, food and human cells. The potential impact for Crookston and surrounding communities is significant. Individuals interested in learning more about these emerging technologies and seeing them in action are encouraged to attend. There is no cost, but pre-registration is highly encouraged as space is limited. Parking for the event is available in lots E and G. No parking permits will be required. Go to the event website to register at www.3DPrintingCrookston.eventbrite.com.

About 360-degrees

360-degrees Manufacturing and Applied Engineering ATE Regional Center of Excellence is a consortium of 13 institutions led by Bemidji State University and includes 12 other technical and community colleges. 360-degrees is designing a 21st century education system that prepares individuals to have rewarding careers in manufacturing and meets the needs of the region's manufacturing employers through an enhanced pipeline, industry-driven curriculum, and authentic assessment. 360-degrees is a member of the Minnesota State College and University system and received a National Science Foundation award in 2012 to become an Advanced Technological Education Regional Center.

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